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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/031,197	08/01/2002	David Glen White	RCA 89646	6191
7590	09/23/2005		EXAMINER	
Joseph S Tripoli Thomson Multimedia Licensing Inc PO Box 5312 Princeton, NJ 08543-5312			LEE, MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/031,197		WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	M. Lee		2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/15/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wantanabe et al. (5,475,436).

Regarding claim 1, Watanabe discloses a sampling rate converting systems showing a plurality of demodulators (1A, 1B, 1C, 1D), a signal processor (15), and a signal bus (10, 11). Each of the decoders has tri-state output buffer (Figures 2 and 3).

Regarding claim 2, Watanabe inherently includes a system controller (see col. 2, lines 59-61).

Regarding claim 3, see Figure 3.

Regarding claim 4, Watanabe inherently includes a system controller (see col. 2, lines 59-67).

Regarding claim 5, see Figures 2 and 3.

Regarding claim 7, see Figure 3.

Regarding claim 8, the sampling rate converter 15 and composite signal processing 31 meets the transport processor because they both organize the input signal to be outputted.

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Regarding claim 9, see rejections as recited above.

Regarding claim 11, Watanabe has a single enclosure for the invention.

Regarding claim 12, the decoders in Figure 1 of Watanabe obtain television signals from different sources. It is considered an intended use to provide different television signal sources to the decoders.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. (5,475,436).

Regarding claim 6, Watanabe does not specify the control register as claimed. In any event, the examiner takes Official Notice that using a register for holding a control value in a digital processing circuitry are well known in the art because it enables the control value to be maintained without tying up a control line. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include a control register into Watanabe so that a control line could be freed for other purposes.

Regarding claim 10, Watanabe does not specify that the controllable transport processor is fabricated on a single integrated circuit as claimed. In any event, the examiner takes Official Notice that fabricating electronic circuits on a single integrated chip can reduce both the size the power consumption of a system dramatically. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to fabricate the circuits of Watanabe on a single integrated chip so that the size and power consumption of the whole system could be reduced.

Regarding claim 13, Watanabe does not specify the different modulation schemes as claimed. The examiner takes Official Notice that using quadrature phase shift keying and quadrature amplitude modulation for transmitting digital data are well known in the art because they both enable the transmission bandwidth to be reduced. Since the television signals in Watanabe are processed in digital format (col. 1, lines 10-12), it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the quadrature phase shift keying or the quadrature amplitude modulation as the data transmission format so that the transmission bandwidth could be reduced.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Callaway (6,621,499) shows a plurality of tri-state buffers.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Lee whose telephone number 571-272-7349. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller, can be reached on 571-272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8000.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



M. Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614